



**1056<sup>th</sup> meeting of the  
Pacific Coast Numismatic Society**

**8:00PM Wednesday April 28, 2004**

**Fort Mason, Building C, Room 362  
San Francisco, California**

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**The Granite Lady and the Fire**  
*Larry Reppeteau*

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## **IMPORTANT: New PCNS Address**

Please note a change of address for the Society as indicated on the front page of this Bulletin. All correspondence to the Society should be sent to the new address.

Please join us Wednesday, April 28, 2004 to hear *Larry Reppeteau* speak about the Granite Lady and how it survived the great earthquake and fire of 1906.

**1055<sup>th</sup> Meeting March 24, 2004. A Short Geographical Lesson on the Provinces of China and their Coins** *Ken Takahashi* (reviewed by *Herb Miles*)

*Ken Takahashi* presented a very fine talk on the 22-23 provinces of China and their coinage. Ken had prepared a number of handouts to allow members to read along with his chalk interpretation of Chinese characters and the more modern westernized spelling (Pinyin). Ken taught us how to date Chinese coins with instructions on numerals, the Chinese calendar, and a handout describing the 60-year cyclical dating system.

Ken presented a very well done talk, enlightening us about how the Chinese use simple landmark names to distinguish the provinces. For example, many province names use mostly descriptive adjectives and nouns such as Hubei for "north of the river," Hunan for "south of the river," Beijing for "northern capital," and Chong Jiang or the "long river" for the Yangtze. Many landmarks and provinces use simple feature descriptions to make it easy to remember their location by native speakers.

Of course, Ken brought some Chinese coinage to share with us, mostly silver dollars that he used to show how to date in the cyclical or 60 year dating method common on these late date 19<sup>th</sup> century coins. A very well done talk, too detailed to summarize adequately here; you should have been there!

## **Exhibits**

*Mark Wm. Clark* brought several more items from his recent trip to Mexico City, a sheet containing 4 lottery tickets



from San Pedro Puebla and an A. Grosso of Colon, Panama token (only one other known!).

*Jack Free* brought a large silver round featuring the Golden Gate Bridge and the China Clipper airplane whose trip ended in the Philippines instead of China and a beautiful Panama-Pacific Souvenir Penny with luster!

*Gordon Donnell* exhibited his complete 100 Year silver dollar type set, i.e., a Morgan Dollar & Walking Liberty Silver Eagle for each year from 1886-1986 through 2004. Gordon must wait until 2021 to match the next pair!

*Cal Rogers* exhibited a large Fukien Province 20 Cash copper piece that has been chopped and told a story of a significant Chinese rebellion that took place during this time period.

*Frank Strazzarino* brought a grouping of Chinese copper coins that he acquired in a temple in Shanghai during his military service during World War II.

*Michael Wehner* exhibited a very nice 1894 California Midwinter Fair bimetallic medal featuring the Golden Gate bridge on one side and the California Bear on the other and a 1898-1899 Spanish-American War medal from California.

*Federico Castillo*, just returned from Costa Rica, brought a copy of a book on Costa Rican Banknotes featuring notes from 1858 through 2001, many in full color.

*Jerry Schimmel* exhibited 2 nice San Francisco tokens from the Ocean Shore Railroad Saloon, 5 cent & 10 cent brass octagonal pieces. This RR was formed in 1905 to go from San Francisco to Santa Cruz, but the route was never completed; it went only to Half Moon Bay, then a passenger had to take a bus the remainder of the trip.

*Larry Reppeteau* brought a wonderful grouping of his Chinese coins and exonomia including 2 carved cowries, an "ant nose" piece from 404-221 BC, a "Ghost Face" piece, some Wu Hsu pieces, and a very fine "Knife Money" piece reading "Brilliant Land" and "East Mountain Pass."

*Herb Miles* brought a new 2004 Jefferson Nickel, (no more Monticello and counting the steps) and a Chinese cash piece that proved to be genuine after further study.

## Raffle

*Gordon Donnell* won a Coin Shot Glass

*Jack Free* took home a Gold-plated paperweight  
picturing the St. Gaudens \$10 Gold Piece

*Larry Reppeteau* won One Ounce Silver Round from the  
South East Refining Inc. of Panama City, Florida

*Gordon Donnell* won (again) a San Francisco Taxicab  
Medallion expiring on June 30, 2002, serial #0473

*Federico Castillo* walked away with a Paper Pocket Pig Coin  
Saver from the Santa Rosa Savings, made to hold \$4.00 in  
silver quarters



The design selected by the governor for the 2005 state quarter  
honoring California.

## Banquet and other calendar items

The annual banquet will be Saturday, June 26, 2004 at the Gold  
Mirror Restaurant, 18<sup>th</sup> and Taraval Streets, San Francisco. The  
menu will include Fish of the Day, Veal, or Chicken. Why not send  
in your banquet form today?

The CSNA educational symposium will be on Saturday, October  
2, 2004 at Fort Mason in San Francisco. Speakers will be  
announced in next month's Bulletin.

PCNS is actively soliciting papers for the 2004 Literary contest.  
You know that you have a numismatic topic worth writing about,  
now is your chance!

*Steve Huston* has printed up a quantity of cards advertising  
PCNS. Contact the Society if you are able to distribute these  
to prospective members.